

Brookside, Lake George,
June 20, 1874.

Dear Wife:

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I got Frank to write you an account of some of our doings at Saratoga, in addition to a letter I sent you from that place. On the whole, my expectations were met as to the hotels, springs, and natural surroundings of Saratoga, but there had been such heavy rains that the streets were in an execrable condition, and at all times are a reproach to the town, considering that "all the world" are annually brought together to traverse them on foot or in vehicles. For the sake of the mineral waters, and the reputed salubrity of the climate, I should like to spend a whole summer there, if as a family we could be together. Frank and I will always have pleasurable recollections of our kind host and hostess, Mr. and Mrs. Adams, at the Continental Hotel; for they were as unwearied in their attentions as though they had been

our most intimate friends. They gave us a fine drive in their carriage to the beautiful lake, five miles away, on which the college regatta is to come off next month, when there will be an enormous inpouring of visitors from every quarter, to the high satisfaction of all hotel and boarding-house keepers, for at present their rooms are nearly all vacant. The new United States Hotel will be ready in a few days to receive a host of comers on a scale never yet attempted. Think of a dining-room in which twelve hundred hungry mortals can be fed at a single sitting!—and everything else in keeping.

We left Saratoga yesterday at 10 A. M. for this place, Mr. and Mrs. Adams and several others accompanying us to the depot. Arriving at the Fort ^{William} Henry Hotel at 7 o'clock, P. M., a little over a mile from the Croshyside, we found a strong breeze blowing and the lake so turbulent that no one was disposed

to row us across; so we had to hire a vehicle, paying two dollars for the short ride. Mr. Crosby was "right glad" to see us again, and at once gave us the two most desirable chambers, commanding an extended view of the lake. The weather was extremely cold for the season, having a March or November asperity, and making one general feeling of discomfort. The wind continued to blow very strong last night, covering the waters with "white caps," and resounding as though we were at Nahant. This morning, at breakfast time, the mercury stood at 56, and must have gone lower during the night. At this time (10 o'clock) the wind has subsided, but the clouds are heavy and the sun hides his face. The outlook, therefore, is somewhat cheerless, but no doubt there will be a more pleasant aspect of things in a day or two. To be thoroughly enjoyable, the lake should not be visited before July. At present, there is scarcely a baker's dozen at either of the hotels.

As we could receive no letter from you or Fanny at Saratoga, I was hoping to find one on our arrival here, but was disappointed. A mail is due from Boston this afternoon, and it will doubtless bring the desired epistle.

Frank means to do considerable boat-rowing while here, "wind and weather permitting," in order to strengthen his muscles; and I purpose to make excursions in the little steamer down the lake, he accompanying me. We mean to enjoy ourselves to the extent of our opportunities, and hope to return home in a better physical condition than when we left it.

I wish William could send us the Daily Advertiser or Journal until we leave here the last of next week, as ~~we~~ no Boston papers are taken at the hotel.

With affectionate regards to all the dear ones, I remain, Your loving W. L. G.